

Capacity Development
A strategy for Kentucky's Public Water Systems
Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet
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Division of Water
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Capacity Development A Strategy for Kentucky's Public Water Systems

Background

In 1996, Congress reauthorized the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Some of the provisions included the establishment of and financing for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) to be established by each state to finance infrastructure improvements for public water systems. To get the full benefit of the Fund, Section 1420 of the SDWA requires states to establish capacity development programs to help assure public water systems have the technical, managerial, and financial ability to meet state and federal requirements. "Capacity" is a water system's ability to meet these requirements. Each state's capacity program must contain two elements: 1) states must have the legal authority to demonstrate that all new public water systems have the technical, managerial, and financial ability to meet state and federal requirements and 2) states must establish a strategy to assist existing water systems improve their capacity.

In response to the requirements of the SDWA related to capacity, the Kentucky General Assembly passed House Bill 598, now codified as KRS 151.630 - 151.636, directing the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet to refuse to approve plans for any new system to come into existence after October 1, 1999 unless they could demonstrate their technical, financial, and managerial ability to meet requirements, and to establish a strategy to assist existing systems to improve capacity. This document is to fulfill the requirements for a strategy for existing systems.

SDWA Requirements for a Strategy

Section 1420(c) of the SDWA and KRS 151.632(2) require the Cabinet to seek public comment on and address five elements:

- 1) the methods or criteria that the Cabinet will use to identify and prioritize the public water systems most in need of improving technical, managerial, and financial capacity;
- 2) a description of the institutional, regulatory, financial, tax or legal factors at the federal, state, or local level that encourage or impair capacity development;
- 3) a description of how the Cabinet will use the authority and resources of the SDWA to assist public water systems in complying with drinking water regulations; encourage the development of partnerships between public water systems to enhance the technical, managerial, and financial capacity of the systems; and assist public water systems in the training and certification of operators;

- 4) a description of how the Cabinet will establish a baseline and measure improvements in capacity to comply with drinking water law and regulations; and
- 5) an identification of the persons that have an interest in and are involved in the development and implementation of the capacity development strategy (including all appropriate agencies of federal, state, and local governments, private and non-profit public water systems, and public water system customers).

Division of Water response

On June 9, 1999, the Division of Water (DOW) mailed a notification of three public meetings to be held July 12, 14, and 20, 1999, at Jenny Wiley State Park in Prestonsburg (eastern Kentucky), Kentucky Dam Village State Park in Gilbertsville (western Kentucky), and Farmer's Bank in Frankfort (central Kentucky) respectively. In the notification (copy attached) DOW identified the five elements from the SDWA and KRS Chapter 151 and requested comment on them. In addition an issue paper was included concerning ideas for addressing the first of the five elements, how to identify and prioritize those public water systems "most in need of improving technical, managerial, and financial capacity," and other issues. These notices were mailed to all County Judges, Mayors, Area Development Districts (regional planning units for local governments), the contact of record for all public water systems, consultants known to work in Kentucky on drinking water issues, certified laboratories, and environmental and public health groups. In addition, a notification of the meeting with an explanation of how to get the more complete issue paper was sent to the Division's "Notice of Intent" list, a list of over 1000 organizations and individuals who have requested that they be advised of regulatory activity of the Division. A copy of the notification was published in the *Louisville Courier-Journal*, the *Lexington Herald-Leader*, both with statewide circulation, and four regional papers in Ashland, Bowling Green, Owensboro, and Paducah.

The Meetings

Persons who attended the three meetings were interested in drinking water issues, though not necessarily capacity development. By far, the most frequently heard concern was a fear that a capacity development program managed by the DOW would duplicate financial and managerial reporting that water systems are already submitting to various state agencies, especially the Public Service Commission (PSC). Water systems regulated by the PSC have to submit annual financial reports, are subject to management audits, engineering reviews for quality of service, and must get PSC approval for rates. This is in addition to the regulatory requirements of the DOW. Other water systems that may have grants or loans from other state or federal agencies are subject to review by those agencies. DOW personnel explained that we have been meeting with the PSC and were sensitive to the issue of duplication. An informal group of water and wastewater funding agencies, both state and federal, including DOW, meets monthly to try to cooperate

and smooth confusion and duplication. However, each agency has laws and regulations that it is responsible for, and some apparent duplication may occur.

Another commenter requested assistance with the Corps of Engineers which is moving, in the commenter's opinion, too slowly on a permit to use a Corps reservoir as a source of water. DOW personnel offered to work with the individual to expedite DOW approvals, but noted that they had no authority over the Corps of Engineers.

Another comment expressed frustration that the capacity development program seemed to be aimed at problem water systems, and that most government assistance seemed to go to the problems and not the water systems that managed to stay in compliance with the law. DOW personnel expressed agreement that the comment has merit, but pointed out that the DWSRF was open to anyone, and that various technical assistance programs could be accessed by any system.

One commenter stated that he did not think that two of the criteria drafted to assist in determining which systems may be most in need of improving capacity were appropriate. Specifically the two criteria relating to a public water system's approved design production capacity. The Division has changed these criteria from identifying a system as in need, to making the system eligible for priority technical assistance, and allowing the system to avoid line-extension and tap-on bans by entering into an enforceable strategy to address the problem.

Kentucky's Mobile Home Manufacturer's Association requested relief from some regulations for very small public water systems that buy and immediately resell water but do not treat it. In particular, the requirements for operator certification was identified.

The Five Elements

This strategy will address each of the five elements set out in the SDWA and KRS 151.632(2).

First, the methods or criteria that the Cabinet will use to identify and prioritize the public water systems most in need of improving technical, managerial, and financial capacity.

The Division of Water, as a part of the public meeting process, identified a group of criteria, and assigned each one points for use in a formula that the DOW might use to assist in identifying the systems "most in need of improving". The Division received comments that two of the criteria were inappropriate, but otherwise the criteria were generally supported. The Division has drafted a regulation to incorporate the criteria into a formula to score systems. Systems that receive a score of fifty (50) would be considered to be one of the systems "most in need" unless the system could rebut such an assumption. Systems receiving twenty-five (25) or more points would be submitted to a committee which could request financial and managerial information and apply an affordability test to the system, or

could use other information available to the DOW (sanitary surveys, inspection reports, knowledge of field staff, etc.) to determine whether or not the system should be judged to be in need of additional technical, managerial, or financial capacity. The regulation will also allow a system to request technical assistance on its own, will give certain systems, judged to be a potential public health threat due to production levels near their design capacity, to avoid line extension bans and tap-on bans through development of an enforceable strategy, and sets a framework for a capacity “certification” program. It is anticipated that capacity development set-asides from SRF grants will be used to operate or partially operate the certification program.

Those systems receiving fifty points, or twenty-five points but judged by the committee to be in need of capacity will be referred to county water supply planning councils to have a strategy developed on the local level as to how best to improve these system’s capacity. It is important to understand the county water supply planning that is already underway by the DOW to assist public water systems in long term planning. The WSP program mandated in 1990 that each county and its municipalities and public water systems develop a twenty-year plan to meet water supply needs. The deadline for completion and approval of all plans was July 15, 1999, to be updated every five years. All 120 plans are complete and approved for the first round. Guidance is being developed for the five-year update. In most cases the ADDs developed the plans for their counties. Elements of the WSP program include the following:

- Delineation of a planning area (in most cases several counties joined together) and formation of a Water Supply Planning Council, made up of Judges/Executive, mayors, and representatives of water suppliers and distributors, to jointly oversee development of the plans. These Councils must continue after plan approval, approve plan amendments, and oversee the five-year plan updates.
- Determination of present water usage separated by use category.
- Forecasts of water supply demand at 5, 10, 15, and 20 years from the base year.
- Delineation of present service areas and projected service areas (including maps).
- Determination of existing treatment and distribution capacity and planned treatment and distribution capacity to meet projected demand.
- Estimates of costs of leak repair and meter installation.
- Analysis of available yield of all water sources during normal and drought conditions.
- Wellhead protection plans for all suppliers relying on wells, or a schedule of completion for these plans.
- Recharge area protection plans for all supplies relying on springs, or a schedule of completion for these plans.
- Maps showing watersheds supplying water supply streams, lakes and reservoirs, and recommended protection areas within these watersheds.
- Determination of water supply adequacy (supply vs. demand) in base year and at 5, 10, 15, and 20 years, with and without planned expansions, including any infrastructure inadequacies.

- Identification of potential sources of contamination in delineated watershed or recharge protection areas (including maps).
- Analysis of the susceptibility of the water systems to these potential sources of contamination.
- Presentation of existing and needed regulatory and non-regulatory measures to protect water source quantity and quality.
- Listings of water supply alternatives to resolve present or projected supply inadequacies, including infrastructure inadequacies.
- Definitions of the preferred water supply alternative, with public input.
- A Water Shortage Response Plan if a system is projected to be drought susceptible.
- A Supply Contamination Response Plan in case of emergency water plant shutdown.

These water supply plans may be amended as necessary, and KRS 151.632(3) directs that systems judged to be in need of improving capacity have their strategy included in the plan, including timetables and goals for improvement. The Division believes that this established planning process is a natural for dealing with public water systems judged to be in need of improving capacity.

Second, a description of the institutional, regulatory, financial, tax or legal factors at the Federal, State, or local level that encourage or impair capacity development.

Although few comments were received that would directly address this element, one was directly addressed, and the DOW can infer a number of others from general comments received, as well as a familiarity with the state's public water systems.

The first, direct comment on an institutional factor impairing capacity relates to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), specifically the time-consuming process that is involved in getting a permit to use COE developed reservoirs as a drinking water source. This involves a study that must be funded through a direct Congressional appropriation, and even after funding is secured is a relatively time consuming study process that does not guarantee success for the public water system. Even if successful, the water system must pay a substantial fee to use the water.

Local institutional problems may impede capacity. These may take the form of a water district managing Board that fails to seek needed rate hikes to political fights that prevent water service where such service should be available.

Regulatory factors can impair capacity, both in terms of monitoring costs that can strain small water system budgets, and a complexity of requirements that frequently catch even relatively large systems off guard, and makes it nearly

impossible for the state program to keep individual systems apprised of the monitoring requirements. Inconsistent interpretations of federal requirements from the Environmental Protection Agency exacerbate this problem. These inconsistencies range from a refusal to clear up vague provisions in the rules, telling states that it is their responsibility, to attempting to micromanage by entering a state and issuing federal notices of violation, to issuing conflicting interpretations from various EPA offices both in regions and between regions and headquarters. Enforcement policies may vary from state to state within a region as well as between regions, and these differences are noted by water systems near state borders. The creation of the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance contributed greatly to these inconsistent approaches to administration of the regulatory requirements, creating an additional institutional impediment.

Another regulatory issue is the division of regulatory authority between state agencies. The Kentucky Public Service Commission regulates water districts and associations for rates, service, and the financial and managerial health of the system. However, the PSC's regulation only applies to about one-third of the public water systems in the state. The DOW regulates all public water systems, but traditionally only for the quality of the water. Now, capacity development and new federal regulations for surface water systems, are causing DOW to review water systems for financing and management, creating what appears to the water system to be a duplication of effort, siphoning resources that could otherwise be used in improving water plant operations. This appearance of duplication could become more pronounced as the Environmental Protection Agency enters into direct regulation of some water systems through the Information Collection Rule and the new Unregulated Contaminant Rule.

Third, a description of how the Cabinet will use the authority and resources of the SDWA or other means, to assist public water systems in complying with drinking water regulations; encourage the development of partnerships between public water systems to enhance the technical, managerial, and financial capacity of the systems; and assist public water systems in the training and certification of operators.

Kentucky has applied for and received grants to set up a DWSRF to assist the state's water systems with infrastructure needs. The DOW sets priorities for funding of proposed projects using a priority formula, and the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority (KIA) actually provides the administration of the loans. In addition, a number of the set-asides from the SRF have been used for source water assessment and delineation, capacity development, and wellhead protection. The priority formula is heavily weighted to encourage systems to achieve economies of scale through mergers and creating regional facilities, obtaining adequate quantities of water and upgrading treatment facilities. Other activities of the commonwealth and the federal government, are available to public water systems to assist them in developing their ability to meet requirements. A brief description of these follows:

The Kentucky Wellhead Protection Program (WHP) addresses groundwater protection issues at the community level by assisting local planning teams with the development of wellhead protection plans for their public water systems. The program was approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency in 1993 and is administered through the Water Supply Planning program described above.

The Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) program was a mandate of the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act under which all public water systems must delineate protection areas, inventory potential sources of contamination, analyze susceptibility of the systems to these potential sources of contamination, and make the results available to the public. Since all these requirements are included in the Water Supply Planning and Wellhead Protection programs described above, the DOW combined elements of these programs as Kentucky's SWAP. The program was approved by U.S.E.P.A. in September 1998; the first state in the nation to be so approved.

The Water Withdrawal Permitting Program governs all water withdrawals greater than 10,000 gallons per day from any surface or groundwater source, with the exception of water required for domestic or agricultural purposes and for steam-powered electric generating plants. Each permit limits withdrawals to an amount that the permittee currently requires and that the water source is generally capable of providing. In addition, each permit may be conditioned to provide protection for other users and for the aquatic habitat.

Through its Comprehensive Technical Assistance Program (CTAP), the Division of Water provides extensive on-site technical assistance to public water systems. This assistance is offered without the threat of enforcement action. The CTAP program is currently engaged in a program with several other states called the Area Wide Optimization Program (AWOP). This program allows CTAP to work with surface water systems to optimize treatment to operate those systems as efficiently as possible, and in most cases to exceed regulatory requirements. The current thrust of this technical assistance is to prepare surface water systems to meet the requirements of the upcoming Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule and the Disinfectant/Disinfection By-product Rule. The CTAP program will extend the optimization concept to all water systems in the state. Other technical assistance continues to be extended to any water system with a particular short-term need.

The Division of Water regulates, through its drinking water plans approval process, the engineering standards and materials used in constructing or reconstructing drinking water plants and distribution systems. These approvals include the size of lines and materials used in line extensions, storage facilities and any pumping stations that may be needed. The plans approval process is in effect a permitting program. No modification of a water system's physical plant or treatment process can be legally begun without plans and specifications approved by the Division. Any modification of a water system must be in accordance with approved plans and specifications. It is this activity that provides the DOW its primary control point to enforce the requirement of the 1996

amendments to the SDWA and KRS 151.634 that all new systems have the technical, managerial, and financial ability to meet requirements.

The Operator Certification Program provides continuous ongoing training of public water system operators, as well as setting standards and enforcing certification requirements for operators dealing with different type water plants and distribution systems. This program provides two full-time trainers to provide training and coordinate training efforts with third parties. This program has been in place for several years, and has recently submitted paperwork to be approved under the new federal operator certification program.

The Division requires public water systems to continuously monitor for an extensive list of bacteriological, chemical, and radiological contaminants to assure the safety of the water and to satisfy state and federal regulatory requirements, and maintains a database containing all public water systems currently operating in Kentucky. This database contains information on the system's source of water, treatment technique, treatment capacity, customer base, monitoring results, and information on any other public water systems that may buy or sell water from or to the system.

As this strategy shows, the Division has established a Capacity Development Program pursuant to KRS Chapter 151 and the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act. This program will identify problem systems and, with the assistance of the ongoing water supply planning program, attempt to match problem systems with possible solutions. In conjunction with new sanitary survey requirements that will require that financial, managerial, and technical aspects of a water system be reviewed, the Division will be looking at the business practices of water systems for the first time. Voluntary mergers and regionalization will be an inevitable product of this effort, as well as strengthening other existing system's ability to meet requirements.

The Water Resources Development Commission (WRDC) was created by Governor Patton and confirmed by the 1998 legislature to develop a strategy to provide potable water to all Kentuckians by 2020. One of the first things the WRDC did was to establish a database to quantify what areas of the state were and were not being served by public water systems. This resulted in the creation of a GIS system mapping the state's public water and sewer lines as they currently exist, a very significant accomplishment in the short time the WRDC has been working. Other WRDC activities have heightened the visibility of drinking water issues and contributed to a valuable discussion of those issues, pointing out possible ways to streamline policy to more effectively regulate water systems. The WRDC's efforts resulted in the passage by the 2000 General Assembly of Senate Bill 409, transferring the responsibilities of the WRDC to KIA and creating a planning mechanism to encourage regionalization, and to serve unserved and underserved areas of the state. A significant bond appropriation was included in the budget to assist KIA in carrying out the legislation.

The Public Service Commission regulates water districts and water associations for issues relating to rates, service areas, and quality of service (adequate pressure,

availability of fire service). Before a water district or association can be established, the Commission has to issue a “certificate of convenience and necessity” that states that the service is necessary and in the public interest. The Commission requires regulated systems to use a uniform system of accounts and to file a financial statement annually with the Commission. The Commission has the authority to designate service areas for regulated water systems, to order service to areas within the service area, to set rates, and to order mergers where the Commission finds that a merger would be appropriate. The Commission has very broad regulatory powers over systems it regulates, but it does not regulate municipal systems. The Commission also does not regulate very small water systems that are not organized under any statutory authority but do meet the definition of public water system used by the Division of Water (trailer parks, campgrounds, motels, restaurants). The Public Service Commission provides technical assistance to the systems it regulates regarding setting up and maintaining accounting systems. The Commission reviews some engineering activity, which to some extent overlaps with the plans review activity of the Division of Water, although engineering reviews of the Commission tend to have a different emphasis than DOW, since the Commission is looking for service issues (i.e. proper water pressure for operating appliances, where fire hydrants may be set), while the DOW is looking at adequate turnovers to maintain potability.

The Dental Health Program in the Cabinet for Health Services provides supplemental fluoridation equipment to certain water systems to promote dental health. Supplemental fluoride monitoring is submitted from the Health Department to the Division of Water for final deposition and use in compliance monitoring for fluoride.

The Department for Local Government (DLG) administers the Community Development Block Grant Program, which provides grants for various community development projects including water. These funds, together with the Rural Development program and the DWSRF provide the majority of the funding for public water systems that want to expand or upgrade, and are instrumental for existing water systems to be able to meet state and federal requirements now and for the future. Representatives of each of these funding programs, along with the DOW, meet informally on a regular basis to discuss mutual concerns and to try to streamline red tape associated with these funding programs. The Area Development Districts, though not a part of DLG, work closely with the Department and receive some funding through it and other state agencies.

The Kentucky Infrastructure Authority (KIA) provides banking functions for a number of infrastructure loan programs, including the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, which lends money for wastewater projects and the new Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, which will lend money for drinking water projects. Other loan programs operated by KIA include solid waste projects and economic development projects. KIA uses a mixture of state and federal money to make loans. KIA loans are frequently used in conjunction with grants from other sources to increase the pool of money and lower the effective interest rate on a project. The recent passage of Senate

Bill 409 created another pool of money for KIA to administer to finance drinking water and wastewater projects.

The United States Department of Agriculture's Rural Development (RD) program funds water projects through both grants and loans. RD money is frequently matched with KIA loans and/or Community Development Block Grant funds to provide a larger pool of money or lower effective interest rates. Some other, more limited sources of money for public water systems include:

- The Appalachian Regional Commission, which administers federal grants for various projects, including water, in the Appalachian area of the state.
- The Economic Development Administration, which grants money for various economic development projects which can include water projects.
- The abandoned mine lands program can, under certain limited conditions, provide water to areas impacted by past mining practices.

Kentucky's fifteen Area Development Districts (ADDs) are regional planning agencies for local governments. They work with counties and municipalities to develop funding packages, administer the Water Supply Planning Councils, help develop the long range county water supply plans, and are responsible for much of the planning required by Senate Bill 409. There is also a "Small Issuer Loan Program" administered by the ADDs.

The Kentucky Rural Water Association provides on-site technical assistance to its member public water systems and wastewater systems. This assistance can take the form of circuit riders who assist a water system operator in solving operational problems, a leak detection program to help a water system find and correct water losses, assistance in establishing a wellhead protection program, or other technical assistance. In addition, Rural Water cooperates with the Kentucky Association of Counties in operating a peer review program for water systems, where volunteer operators from other water systems will visit and critique a system's operations and offer assistance. The peer review program is an excellent example of a program to encourage partnerships between water systems to improve technical, managerial, and financial ability to meet requirements. The Division of Water has frequently offered training sessions in conjunction with the peer review program but is uninvolved in a system's peer review evaluation. Rural Water offers a number of continuous education opportunities to public water systems in cooperation with the operator certification program, and offers forums for Division of Water personnel to offer overviews to Rural Water members of existing and upcoming regulatory requirements. In some cases, under contract with the Division of Water or other agencies, Rural Water offers technical assistance to non-member water systems. The Rural Water Association is also involved in the "Small System Technical Assistance Center" at Western Kentucky University.

The Kentucky Association of Counties (KACO) represents county governments generically. KACO sponsors the "peer review" program in cooperation with Rural Water. In addition, water districts are organized under the jurisdiction of county governments. KACO has some limited ability to loan money for water projects.

The Kentucky League of Cities represents city governments generically. Like KACO the League has a limited amount of money it can make available for loans. Most community water systems in the state are city-owned and not regulated by the Public Service Commission.

The Rural Community Assistance Program (R-CAP) provides technical assistance to very small (usually under 500) communities including assistance for small water systems.

Western Kentucky University has established a “Small System Technical Assistance Center” with a grant from the SDWA through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Among other things the center is working with the Rural Water Association to develop training for water system managers.

The University of Louisville has been designated by EPA as an “Environmental Finance Center”. U of L has already offered sessions to a number of public water systems to use a computer model to help plan appropriate rates and reserve funds for the long-term financial health of the system.

Kentucky believes that the activities outlined above very pointedly meet the requirements of this third of the five elements of the SDWA to assist public water systems to meet federal requirements.

Fourth, a description of how the Cabinet will establish a baseline and measure improvements in capacity to comply with drinking water law and regulations.

Kentucky began 1999 with 698 public water systems serving nearly 3.3 million Kentuckians. Included in these systems were 26 community, 14 transient noncommunity, and 1 nontransient noncommunity persistent violators. One measurement of progress will be a reduction in these numbers—especially the persistent violators. Reductions in the significant noncompliers identified by EPA will also be an important measure.

Another measure of progress will be the successful promulgation and implementation of the regulation to identify public water systems most in need of improving their capacity. Once implemented, the program will generate a list of systems to be submitted to local planning councils to have a strategy for improving capacity developed and made a part of the county water supply plan. Generation of this list, development of plans, and the subsequent carrying out of those plans, will each represent benchmarks against which the state may measure improved capacity.

The Environmental Protection Agency is currently compiling information to develop a new needs assessment for each state. Once established, the successful loaning of all available DWSRF money to address the identified needs will be a benchmark for measuring capacity.

The Cabinet has set aside money for technical assistance from the DWSRF. Development of the request for proposals to spend that money, and the actual assistance

gained from the expenditures of that money will be a measure of progress for the state's capacity.

Similarly, development of the capacity certification program and the actual certification of water system's capacity will be a measure of progress for the state's capacity.

Fifth, an identification of the persons that have an interest in and are involved in the development and implementation of the capacity development strategy (including all appropriate agencies of federal, state, and local governments, private and non-profit public water systems, and public water system customers).

All of Kentucky's public water systems and public water system consumers and potential consumers have an interest in the capacity development strategy. In addition, public water systems and public water system consumers and potential consumers in states bordering Kentucky have an interest in the capacity development strategy since public water systems in other states may buy from or sell to water systems in Kentucky, now or in the future. In addition, the following state and federal agencies have an interest in the capacity development strategy:

- Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet
- Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services
- Kentucky Infrastructure Authority
- Kentucky Department of Parks
- Kentucky Department for Corrections
- Kentucky Department for Local Government
- Kentucky Economic Development Cabinet
- Kentucky Geological Survey
- Kentucky Office of Geographic Information Systems
- Kentucky Public Service Commission
- Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
- Kentucky Department of Agriculture
- Rural Community Assistance Program
- Appalachian Regional Commission
- U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U. S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development

Other state or federal agencies may have an interest in the capacity development strategy.

The following local governments have an interest in the capacity development strategy: Area Development Districts, all city governments, and all county governments.

The following groups or associations may have an interest in the capacity development strategy:

- Consulting engineers
- Certified laboratories
- Kentucky Rural Water Association
- Kentucky League of Cities

Kentucky Association of Counties
Kentucky Ground Water Association
Kentucky Resources Council
Kentucky Conservation Committee
Kentuckians for the Commonwealth
Kentucky Mobile Home Manufacturers Association

Other groups or associations may have an interest in the capacity development strategy.

The Kentucky Division of Water would identify the mailing list that was used to solicit public comment on the elements of this strategy to come closest to being a comprehensive listing of those who have been involved in developing this strategy. That list consists of several thousand names or organizations and is too large to be included here.

Conclusion

The Kentucky Division of Water believes that the program descriptions in response to the five elements identified in the SDWA and KRS 151.632(2) constitute a cohesive strategy to improve the capacity of Kentucky's public water systems. In particular the regulation to identify systems most in need of capacity, the proposed capacity certification program, the county long term water supply planning, the DWSRF program to assist systems in attaining and maintaining capacity, the other state and federal funding programs, the technical assistance offered by the CTAP program and that which will be offered pursuant to third-party contracts from money set aside from the DWSRF, technical assistance offered by the Kentucky Rural Water Association, the peer review program offered by Rural Water and the Kentucky Association of Counties, all provide mechanisms to identify problems, plan for them, identify necessary fixes, and fund the necessary fixes. Together these programs, planning functions, and funding agencies add up to a comprehensive strategy to assist public water systems to acquire technical, financial, and managerial capacity.